

Application Serial No. 10/761,074  
Reply to Office Action of April 4, 2007

PATENT  
Docket: CU-3458

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 were pending prior to entry of this amendment. By this amendment, claims 3 and 10 are cancelled leaving claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-16 as pending.

In the office action that was mailed April 4, 2007, claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent number 5,815,883 to Stein et al. Claims 3-7, 10-14 and 16 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but allowable if they were to be re-written in independent form.

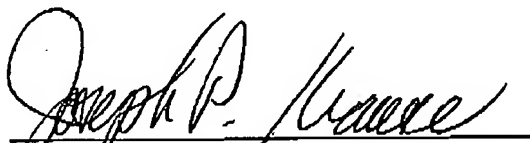
Independent claim 1 is directed to a hose connection assembly. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 3, which was determined to be allowable. Claim 3 has been cancelled. The amendment to claim 1 thus traverses the rejection of claim 1 and traverses the rejections of claims that depended from claim 1.

Independent claim 8 is directed to a vacuum cleaner having a connection hose assembly. Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 10. Claim 10 has been cancelled. The amendment to claim 8 thus traverses the rejection of claim 8 and traverses the rejections of all claims that depend from claim 8.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-16 are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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